

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 04681 150925Z  
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00  
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 DOE-15 H-01 INR-10 INT-05  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 ICA-11 SP-02  
SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 PA-01 /127 W  
-----069621 150928Z /10

R 150646Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3550

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EMIN, TECH, AS  
SUBJ: SOLAR ENERGY IN AUSTRALIA

REF: A) STATE 145840; B) CANBERRA 2399

1. SOLAR ENERGY HAS A GREAT POTENTIAL IN AUSTRALIA  
PARTICULARLY IN THOSE ISOLATED MINING COMMUNITIES FAR  
REMOVED FROM LARGE ELECTRICAL GENERATING FACILITIES. GOA  
ENCOURAGES SOLAR ENERGY RESEARCH BUT PROVIDES LITTLE  
FUNDING TO SUPPORT RESEARCH.

2. IF GOA HAS NOT ALREADY DONE SO THROUGH THE AUSTRALIAN  
EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON, GOA WILL BE PRESSING USG TO NEGOTIA  
A GOA-USG JOINT EFFORT ON SOLAR ENERGY RESEARCH. AS PART  
OF THIS GOA INITIATIVE, THE DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT HAS FORWARDED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO GOA  
EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON FOR DISTRIBUTION THROUGHOUT THE  
USG ENERGY COMMUNITY: A REPORT ENTITLED, " A DIRECTORY OF  
AUSTRALIAN SOLAR ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT," VOL. 1 -  
SUMMARY, VOLS. 2-1 AND 2-2 - TECHNOLOGY. THESE PUBLICATIONS  
ANSWER THE QUESTIONS POSED IN REFTEL.

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3. FOLLOWING SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL WILL BE TRANSMITTED  
TO DEPARTMENT BY AIRGRAM: SOLAR ENERGY REPORT FROM THE  
SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL RESOURCES; RESEARCH  
AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR ENERGY BY THE NATIONAL ENERGY  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE; AND REPORT TO THE PRIME MINISTER ON  
ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN AUSTRALIA BY THE AUSTRALIAN  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL.

4. COMMENT: DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR ENERGY POLICY, BOB LAYLAND, INFORMED THE REGIONAL RESOURCES ATTACHE THAT THE GOA POSSESSES SOME SENSE OF URGENCY IN CONCLUDING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE USG TO COOPERATE IN SOLAR ENERGY RESEARCH. GOA OBVIOUSLY SEES SOLAR ENERGY AS A PARTIAL SOLUTION TO FUTURE ENERGY DEMAND IN AUSTRALIA. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE BEING INFORMED ON THE GOA SOLAR ENERGY INITIATIVE RELATIVE TO USG COOPERATION.

5. AS THE DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, FOR THE LAST THREE YEARS THE GOA (THROUGH THE SOLAR ENERGY UNIT OF THE COMMONWEALTH SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ORGANIZATION - CSIRO) HAS BEEN A PARTICIPANT IN THE U.S. SPONSORED PILOT PROJECT ON SOLAR ENERGY UNDER THE NATO/CCMS UMBRELLA.

6. IN ADDITION, U.S. COMPANIES, HONEYWELL FOR ONE, HAVE SHOWN A CERTAIN INTEREST IN SOLAR ENERGY PROJECTS SPONSORED BY SUCH INSTITUTIONS AS THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY AND THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY.  
SQUIRE

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## Message Attributes

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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Reference:** 78 STATE 145840, 78 CANBERRA 2399  
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**TAGS:** EMIN, TECH, AS  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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